

MINUTES

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA

Free Will Baptist General Conference,

Held at Grimsley's meeting house, Greene county, N. C.

On the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th days of November, A. D. 1845.

THURSDAY, Nov. 6th, 1845.

Agreeably to previous appointment, the Ministers, Messengers, and Delegates of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Conference, met at Grimsley's meeting house, Greene county, North Carolina.

According to appointment, at 12 o'clock, Elder Thomas Moore introduced divine service, and preached from the 4th chapter and 14th verse of St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, viz. "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."

Conference was then duly organized, by choosing Elder Thomas Moore, Moderator; Elder Calvin Ruff, Clerk; and brother Willis Murphrey, Assistant Clerk.

On motion of Elder Thomas Moore, agreed that brethren James Garland, and Henry Suggs, be appointed a Committee of Finance, to receive contributions, settle with the Treasurer, and report to Conference.

On motion of Elder Jeremiah Heath, agreed that Elder Little J. Utley be invited to a seat with us in conference.

On motion of Elder John F. Jones agreed that Elder Jacob Utley, Elder John F. Jones and brother William Forice be a committee, to supply the congregation, and fill the stage with preachers during this Conference.

On motion of Elder Jesse Vause, agreed that Conference adjourn until Friday, 10 o'clock, A. M. Prayer and praise by Elder Roderick Powel.

FRIDAY, Nov. 7th. Met agreeably to appointment. Prayer by Elder W. Witchard.

On motion of Elder Jesse Vause, agreed that the letters from the several churches be called for and read.

The letters were called for in order, and read.

The number of members, delegates, amount of contributions, &c. is as the following table exhibits:

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	DELEGATES.	Received.	Baptized.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Died.	Total Num-ber.	Dolls. & Cts.
North East, Duplin,	Daniel Dail,	15	40				122	1 50
Probability, do.	Joshua Hardison,		3				10	50
Beaver Creek, Jones,							14	
Leusen Swamp, Lenoir,	Jesse Coward,	2			2	2	98	2 00
Wheat Swamp, do.	James Garland,		7	2	4	2	128	2 00
Bethel, do.	Elijah V. Pittman,						14	1 00
Sand Hill, do.	James Daugherty,		2				27	1 00
Woodenton, do.	N. Hill, H. Cunningham,		20				80	1 00
Hickory Grove, do.	Robert Daly,		7	4	4	1	169	2 00
Parker's, Pitt,	Blunt Speir,						40	1 00
Imitation, do.	By letter,					1	24	50
Reedy Branch, do.	H. Smith, B. Crafford,		11			4	44	1 00
Little Creek, Greene,	Wm. Forest, J. Kirel,		30		2	5	192	2 00
Grimley, do.	M. Abritton, W. Murphrey,	1	2	1		1	129	2 00
Hookerton, do.	Benj. Canada, H. Suggs,						116	2 00
Core Creek, Craven,	Calvin Williams,		2				27	1 00
Bachelor's Creek, do.	Joel D. Bull,		7			4	55	1 00
Newbern, do.	Hiram G. Paul,	1	2			2	41	1 00
Brice's Creek, do.	By letter,		8		1	3	36	1 00
Stony Run, Cumberland,	Thos. Jones, S. N. Eccles,						30	50
Wire Creek, Carteret,	Ar. Muill, Wm. Springer,		4				23	1 00
Island Creek, Jones,	Not represented,						12	
Pine Grove, Wayne,	Council Bizzel,	9	5	1		2	41	1 00
Wood Swamp, do.	Aaron Parks,		6		1		38	1 50
Free Union, Greene,	Jacob Rasbury, L. Brand,	1	13		3	3	92	1 25
El Bethel, Robeson,	Wm. C. Miller, John Foley,	1	4	1	1	1	24	1 00
Hog Swamp, do.	By letter,	1	6	9	5		130	1 25
Tar River, Pitt,	Bassett Sykes,	1				3	51	75
Hart's, Greene,	Turner May, Jno. B. Baker,	6	10			1	36	1 00
Goose Creek, Craven,	Wm. Y. Paul, S. S. Simson,		9			2	90	1 50
Hester m. h. Bladen,	Killis Philips, W. Thompson,		6		1		32	1 00
Jones' Bay, Beaufort,	By letter,		1			4	27	1 00
Milton B. River, Craven,	By letter,	1		3		1	27	50
Gum Swamp, Pitt,	Allen Windham,						25	45
Oak Grove, do.							6	
Gatem's m. h. Columbus,	By letter,						21	50
Lumberton, Robeson,	By letter,						18	50
Parker Branch, Jones,	Hampton Williams,						10	1 00
		40	195	21	23	42	2086	39. 20

Forty cents gratuitously bestowed by Ten Mile Swamp for Minutes, to be sent to Robeson county with other packages, by mail, and the postage to be paid out of the general fund.

On motion agreed, that the Treasurer pro tem. pay over to the General Treasurer the money remaining in his hands.

On motion of Elder Jesse Vause, agreed that the Committee of Finance, retire, settle with the Treasurer, and report to Conference.

The Committee retired, settled with the Treasurer, & submitted the following report:

Balance on hand, of last year's contributions,	-	-	\$3 00
Contributions this year,	-	-	39 60
Amount now on hand,	-	-	\$42 60

JAMES GARLAND, }
HENRY SUGGS, } Committee.

On motion of Elder Jeremiah Heath, agreed that Elder Calvin Ruff, transcribe and prepare these Minutes for the press.

On motion of Elder Thomas Moore, agreed that twelve hundred copies of these Minutes (1200) be printed, and distributed to the several churches composing the Free Will Baptist Conference, N. C.

On motion of brother Willis Murphrey, agreed that Elder James Moore, contract for the printing of these Minutes, and distribute them to the several churches.

On motion of Elder John Barrow, agreed that Elder James Moore be paid eight dollars (\$8 00) for his trouble, of attending to the printing, and distribution of these Minutes.

On motion of Elder Jacob Utley, agreed that the following names be enrolled on the list of preachers, viz. Williby Witchard, Hiram G. Paul, Abraham Taylor, Thomas Reeves, and Brinkly White.

On motion of Elder Jesse Vause, agreed that Elder James Moore, preach the Introductory Sermon at the next General Conference, and in case of his failure, Elder Jesse Vause.

Voted that the next General Conference be held at Little Creek, in Greene county, North Carolina, and to commence the Thursday before the second Lord's Day in November, 1846.

On motion, agreed that Conference close. Praise and prayer by Elder Jesse Vause.

CALVIN RUFF, Clerk.

THOMAS MOORE, Moderator.

WILLIS MURFREY, Assistant Clerk.

The following is a list of Elders and preachers belonging to the Free Will Baptist Conference in N. Carolina, viz.

1 Jeremiah Heath,	13 Jeremiah Roe,	25 Redding Rayford,
2 Jacob Utley,	14 John Williams,	26 Wilson Daniels,
3 John F. Jones,	15 Theop. Slaughter,	27 Williby Witchard,
4 Dickerson Dail,	16 William F. Bryant,	28 H. G. Paul,
5 Alfred Moore,	17 Henry D. Cason,	29 Abraham Taylor,
6 Roderick Powel,	18 David H. Miller,	30 Thos. Reeves,
7 John Creekman,	19 Benjamin Albritton,	31 Brinkly White,
8 Charles Holland,	20 Matthew Manning,	
9 James Moore,	21 R. A. Witherington,	N.B. Through the request
10 Thomas Moore,	22 William J. Baker,	of Elder Jesse Vause his name
11 John Barrow,	23 Calvin Ruff,	is left blank in the list of
12 Stephen D. Collins,	24 Robert Henderin,	preachers

Under the direction of the Committee of Arrangement, the stage was supplied, and the congregation entertained as follows viz.

FRIDAY, Nov. 7th. Elder David H. Miller introduced divine service and preached from Paul's letter to the Hebrews, 6th chap. and 2nd verse, viz. "Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment." Elder John Barrow followed from Paul's first letter to Timothy, 4th chap. and 10th verse, viz. "For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God who is the Saviour of all men, especially of those that believe." Elder John Williams followed from Genesis, 45th chap. and latter clause of the 24th verse, viz. "See that ye fall not out by the way."

SATURDAY, Nov. 8th. Elder James Moore introduced divine service and preach-

ed from St. Luke's gospel, 15th chap. and first clause of the 18th verse, viz. "I will arise and go to my Father." Elder David H. Miller followed from the 19th chap. of St. John's gospel and latter clause of the 26th verse, viz. "Woman, behold thy son."

Elder L. J. Utley followed from the 17th chap. of St. John's gospel, latter clause of the 4th verse, viz. "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

SUNDAY, Nov. 9th. Elder David H. Miller introduced divine service by prayer, after which Elder Stephen D. Collins preached from St. Luke's gospel, 24th chap and 48th verse, viz. "And ye are witnesses of these things." Elder Jeremiah Heath followed from St. Matthew's gospel, 13th chap. and 33rd verse, viz. "The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." Elder Jacob Utley followed and closed by prayer & praise.

The times of holding the annual and quarterly meetings.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	ANNUAL MEETINGS.		QUARTERLY MEETINGS.
North East, Duplin,	1st	Sunday in Aug.	1st Sunday in Feb., May & Nov.
Probability, do.	2nd	do Sept.	2nd do Dec., March & June,
Boaver Creek, Jones,	3d	do Aug.	3rd do Feb., May and Nov.
Leusen Swamp, Lenoir,	1st	do October.	1st do Jan., April and July.
Wheat Swamp, do.	3d	do Nov.	3d do Feb., May and Aug.
Bethel do.	4th	do Sept.	4th do Dec., March & June.
Sandhill do.	2nd	do Sept.	2nd do Dec., March & June.
Woodenton, do.	1st	do Sept.	1st do Dec., March & June.
Hickory Grove, do.	2nd	do October.	2nd do Jan., April & July.
Parker's M. H., Pitt,	3d	do Sept.	3d do Dec., March & June.
Imitation do.	1st	do Oct.	1st do Jan., April and July.
Reedy Branch, do.	1st	do Nov.	1st do Feb., May and Aug.
Little Creek, Greene,	3d	do Oct.	3d do Jan., April and July.
Grimsley, do.	2nd	do Oct.	2nd do Jan., April and July.
Hookerton, do.	4th	do Aug.	4th do Feb., May and Nov.
Cors Creek, Craven,	1st	do Nov.	1st do Feb., May and Aug.
Bachelor's Creek, do.	2nd	do Sept.	2nd do Dec., March & June.
Newbern, do.	2nd	do Aug.	2nd do Feb., May and Nov.
Brice's Creek, do.	4th	do Aug.	4th do Feb., May and Nov.
Stony Run, Cumberland,	1st	do Oct.	1st do Jan., April and July.
Wire Creek, Carteret,	2nd	do Oct.	2nd do Jan., April and July.
Island Creek, Jones,	1st	do Oct.	1st do Jan., April and July.
Piny Grove, Wayne,			" " " "
Flood Swamp, do.			" " " "
Free Union, Greene,	1st	do Oct.	1st do Jan., April and July.
El Bethel, Robeson,	1st	do Sept.	1st do Dec., March & June.
Hog swamp, do.	2nd	do Sept.	2nd do Dec., March & June.
Goose Creek, Craven,			" " " "
Hester M. H., Bladen,	1st	do Oct.	1st do Jan., April and July.
Jones' Bay, Beaufort,	4th	do Aug.	4th do Nov., Feb. and May.
Milton, Craven,			" " " "
Tar river, Pitt,	3d	do Aug.	3d do Nov., Feb. and May.
Tatem's m. h. Columbus,	4th	do Oct.	4th do Jan., April and July.
Lumberton, Robeson,	3d	do Oct.	3d do Jan., April and July.
Parker's branch, m h Jones	3d	do Oct.	3d do Jan., April and July.

Dear brethren, while in the discharge of the duty devolving upon me by order of the General Conference, I feel happy to say in conclusion, that during the sitting of our Conference peace and harmony seemed to prevail; for which I feel abundantly to thank our adorable Creator, hoping that God will abundantly bless our endeavors, and crown our meeting with the best of consequences. O that God may help us to love each other more fervently, and conform us more to his holy and righteous will, and strengthen us in his love, is the prayer of your brother. CALVIN RUFF, Clk.